

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in Beeskow and Eberswalde

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 21 February 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. On 8 February 1955, the Reiter Kaserne (4041) in Beeskow was vacant, except for a small guard detail. ¹
2. After 1 February, the cantonment on Breitscheid Strasse (4344) in Eberswalde was occupied by only a rear detail of approximately 30 soldiers with 3 trucks.
3. Between 29 and 31 January, the trucks were not stored in the bays as usual but stood in front of the bays. They were being thoroughly serviced and some of them were loaded on 31 January. ²
4. Between 1 and 4 or 5 February, exercises must have been held in the area west of Eberswalde. Units from the Eberswalde post apparently participated in these exercises. Increased flying activity of jet fighters stationed in Finow was [] during the period concerned. At 1615 on 4 February, 3 armored personnel carriers mounting machine guns and soldiers, 2 motorcycles, and 2 trucks were [] on Eisenbahnstrasse in Eberswalde en route to the barracks installations. At about 1645, 3 armored personnel carriers mounting machine guns and soldiers and 4 trucks, including 1 truck towing a field kitchen, were [] in the town. The column came from the direction of Finow. All vehicles were heavily soiled []
5. It was learned that, during the night of 31 January/1 February, Soviet troop columns passed through Eberswalde almost throughout the whole night. The columns [] came from the barracks installations and proceeded westward. Additional columns of trucks carrying troops, as well as guns, and several amphibious vehicles with pontoons reportedly passed through the town and proceeded westward in the morning of 2 February.
6. Between 1500 and 1600 on 4 February, 5 to 6 large vehicles, presumably amphibious vehicles, were [] in Eberswalde. ³

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7. After 0930 on 28 January, the following materiel was entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station:

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3 T-34/85 tanks
 2 JS-2 and 2 JS-3 tanks;
 1 SU-100, 2 SU-249 and 1 JSU-152 guns;
 1 closed truck, 1 jeep and 1 sidecar motorcycle; and
 1 boxcarload of personnel.

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Almost all motor vehicle and tank turret numbers were covered. The train left northward at 1530. the unit came from the Artillerie Kaserne (4341) in Eberswalde.

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8. At about 1530 on 28 January, little activity was observed in the Artillerie Kaserne in Eberswalde. Officers wearing black-bordered crimson and red-bordered black epaulets were seen at the installation. 4

9. On 1 February, an advanced combat practice with armored support was observed in the training area 1 km north of Trampe, south of Eberswalde. Approximately 120 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and light equipment, 1 armored personnel carrier, 8 trucks mounting a total of approximately 160 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, 4 trucks towing 57-mm AT guns and 2 tanks were observed in the training area. 3

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1. Comment. It is possible that, in early February, major exercises were also held in the area of the 7th Gds Mecz Div, in which the 468th Gds Mort Regt stationed in the Reiter Kaserne (4041) in Beeskow may have participated.

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2. Comment. The elements of the 118th Sig Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army stationed in the Cantonment on Breitscheid Strasse (4344) in Eberswalde either participated in the exercise of the 25th Tank Div which was held south of Templin between 31 January and 3 February or in the post exercise of the units stationed in Eberswalde.

3. Comment. During the same period, exercises of several days duration were also held at other posts in the zone by the units stationed there.

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4. Comment. According to weapons observed, elements of the 82d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div stationed in the Artillerie Kaserne in Eberswalde probably transferred to Templin for firing practices.

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